facilities is a continuous process depending upon the potential users and the traffic handled at an airport.

Setting up of an International Airport in Punjab

†666. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no international airport has been set up in Punjab at present;

(b) the total amount of revenue earned by Government from the State through foreign travels;

(c) whether Government would take necessary action to set up an international airport, working 24 hours, at Ludhiana; and

(d) if so, by when; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. However, limited international flights are operating through Amritsar airport.

(b) The total revenue earned by Airports Authority of India from the State through foriegn travels is Rs. 10.20 lakhs in 1998-99.

(c) and (b) No airline has indicated any plan for international operations at Ludhiana airport. Therfore, there is no plan to set up an international airport there.

Operation of International Flights from Ahmedabad Airport

667. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision has already been taken to upgrade the Ahmedabad Airport and rename it as Sardar Vallabh-bhai Patel International Airport;

(b) if so, the reasons for not operating the International flights from this Airport;

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†Original notice of the Question, was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is also a fact that all the formalities have been completed as required for an international airport; and

(d) if so, when the Airport will be functional to start flights to South African countries as well as other foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (d) The Ahmedabad airport has been upgraded to international standards for operation of international flights. The airport has been already renamed as Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport. Indian Airlines and Air India are already operating flights from Ahmedabad via Mumbai to New York, Chicago, London, Paris, Moscow, Nairobi, Dar-Es-Salaam, Muscat, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Doha, Bahrain, Kuwait, Jeddah, Sharjah, Riyadh, Kuala Lumpur, Singapore and Hong Kong.

Advice of Ministry officials on conversion of Jaipur Airport

668. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some sections of his Ministry officials have strongly advised to convert Jaipur into an International Airport; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not taking the necessary steps to make Jaipur an Internatioal Airport in the interest of the travelling public?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

CAG's Report on TRAI

669. DR. GOPALRAO VITHALRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item titled "CAG criticises TRAI for exceeding personal entitlements" as appeared in the Indian Express dated the 1st November, 1999;